

DATE MAILED  
OCTOBER 16, 1998

BEFORE THE  
  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of RockGen Energy LLC (Polsky Energy Corporation)  
for Authority to Construct and Place in Operation a Simple-Cycle  
Combustion Turbine Generating Facility, Known as the RockGen  
Energy Center, to be Located in Dane or Rock County 9335-CE-101

Application of Alliant-Wisconsin Power and Light for Authority to  
Construct and Operate a New Substation and 138 kV Transmission Line,  
or Uprate and Relocate an Existing 138 kV Transmission Line, Make  
Necessary Substation and 138-69 kV Transformer Modifications 6680-CE-155  
Associated With the RockGen Energy Center

Application of Wisconsin Electric Power Company for Transmission  
System Improvement Associated With the RockGen Energy Center 6630-CE-263

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING, INVESTIGATION,  
ASSESSMENT OF COSTS, AND HEARING**

**THIS IS A PROCEEDING** to consider the application of RockGen Energy LLC (RockGen Energy) for authority to construct the RockGen Energy Center, a new power plant in either Dane County or Rock County, and the applications of Alliant-Wisconsin Power and Light (Alliant) and Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO) for authority to construct, operate, upgrade, or improve electric transmission lines and substations to support the new power plant (the Applications). Copies of the Applications are available for inspection at the Cambridge Community Library, the Hedberg Public Library, the Madison Public Library, at the offices of the county clerks of Dane County and Rock County, and at the offices of the municipal clerks of the town of Johnstown, the town of Christiana, and the village of Rockdale.

The Applications will be the subject of public hearings. The hearing schedule appears below.

<b>Hearing Schedule</b>	
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	November 16, 1998, 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
<b>Hearing Location:</b>	Nikolay Middle School 08 Gymnasium 211 South Street Cambridge
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	November 17, 1998, 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
<b>Hearing Location:</b>	Johnstown Community Center 9937 East County Trunk A Janesville
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	November 18, 1998, 9:00 a.m.
<b>Hearing Location:</b>	Amnicon Falls Hearing Room (1 <sup>st</sup> floor) Public Service Commission Building 610 North Whitney Way Madison

### **Need for New Generation, Transmission, and Natural Gas Facilities**

RockGen Energy, Alliant, and WEPCO are proposing to construct the RockGen Energy Center and the supporting transmission and substations to maintain adequate and reliable electric service to customers in eastern Wisconsin as required by 1997 Wisconsin Act 204 and the Commission's 1997 direction that Alliant build or have built a new power plant to supply 150 megawatts (MW) of new electric generation capacity.

### **Project Location**

There are two alternative sites for the RockGen Energy Center. One is in the town of Christiana in Dane County; the other is in the town of Johnstown in Rock County. Only one site will be approved.

The Johnstown site (Attachment 1) would require approximately 7 to 8 miles of new 138 kV electric transmission line. There are alternate routes for this new line. Approximately 30 miles of

existing electric transmission lines would also need to be rebuilt (Attachment 2). This site would require a new natural gas pipeline (Attachment 1). There are three alternate routes for a pipeline varying in length from approximately 1.5 to 8.5 miles. Only one transmission line route and one natural gas pipeline route will be approved and constructed if the Johnstown site is approved for the power plant.

The Christiana site (Attachment 3) would require improvements to various substations and approximately 0.6 mile of transmission lines to be rerouted but would not require new transmission lines or existing lines to be rebuilt. This site would require approximately 8 miles of new natural gas pipeline. There are two alternate routes for this pipeline. Only one route will be approved if the Christiana site is approved for the power plant.

### **Project Schedule**

If the Commission approves the applications, construction of the power plant and supporting facilities is scheduled to begin in April 1999 and the facilities are expected to be in service by June 2000.

### **Project Review and Approval**

The proposed project needs the approval of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as well as the Commission. Commission staff and DNR staff are reviewing the costs and potential environmental impacts of the alternative sites and routes. The Commission will approve, modify, or deny the Applications based on the hearing record in this case. The DNR will issue permits at a later date.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Commission will hold public hearings on November 16, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Nikolay Middle School; on November 17, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Johnstown Community Center; and on November 18, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Service Commission office building at 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin. These rooms are accessible to people in wheelchairs. Any person with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact Richard Teslaw at (608) 267-9766. Further hearings may continue at times and places designated by the presiding hearing examiner.

The hearing will be to receive evidence related to the Applications. The evidence will be the record in this case. The record establishes the legal basis for the Commission's final decision on the Applications. Property owners or any other persons having an interest or concern are urged to attend and participate in the public hearings.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that full parties shall file an **original and 15 copies** of direct testimony with the Commission and shall provide a copy to other full parties by **noon on November 6, 1998**. Rebuttal testimony is due in hand by **9:00 a.m. on November 16, 1998**, at the

hearing. Fax filings are due one day earlier than the above dates to allow time for copies to be made. Fax filing cover sheets must state "Official Filing" and the number of pages (the limit for fax filing is 20 pages). File by one mode only. Copies of the direct testimony may be obtained by calling (608) 267-7968 or by written request to the Electric Division, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854, **after November 6, 1998**. Copies of rebuttal testimony may be obtained after **November 16, 1998**. Refer to dockets 9335-CE-101, 6680-CE-155, and 6630-CE-263 in your request. Copies will also be available at the hearing. Members of the public who are not full parties do not need to prefile testimony and may give oral testimony at the hearing.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that persons intending to participate as a full party must indicate such interest in writing, referencing dockets 9335-CE-101, 6680-CE-155, and 6630-CE-263, to Donna L. Paske, Hearing Examiner, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854. ***A fax number should be furnished.*** Even if a person has been included on the mailing list in these dockets, full party status must be requested separately subsequent to the issuance of this notice of hearing. A list of the full parties will be distributed by fax on **October 29, 1998**, to permit mailing or faxing of testimony.

**Interests or concerns expressed outside the hearing or after the record is closed cannot be used by the Commission to make its decision.**

This is a Class 1 contested case under Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3). This is a Type I action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(1). This case requires the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) under Wis. Stat. § 1.11. The public hearings will be held after completion of the EIS. Persons with questions or comments on the environmental aspects of this case are encouraged to testify and may contact Sarah Jenkins, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854, or call her at (608) 266-3900. Comments on the EIS will be accepted until the close of the public hearings.

General questions about this matter can be answered by contacting Ali A. Wali, Electric Division, at (608) 267-3592 or by e-mail (walia@psc.state.wi.us). Specific questions about the hearing process can be answered by calling Donna Paske, Hearing Examiner, at (608) 266-7173. To contact RockGen Energy about the proposed project, call Andy Kellen at (847) 559-9800, ext. 326.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

By the Commission.

---

Lynda L. Dorr

Dockets 9335-CE-101/6680-CE-155/6630-CE-263

Secretary to the Commission

AAW:gmh:G:\Notice\Pending\9335-CE-101 NOH.doc